

**APPLICATION PACKET**  
**2006 GOVERNOR'S FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMMERSION ACADEMIES**  
**FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH**

Sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education  
Richmond, Virginia

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAindex.html>

**READ CAREFULLY**

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This academy is not designed for students who come to it with native or near-native fluency in the target language. Students with highly developed oral language skills do not find the rigors of the academy as challenging or rewarding as students of lesser proficiency who, for the most part, have learned the language in a classroom setting. Further, it is difficult for staff to accommodate students whose language skills are already sufficiently developed.

**Each applicant will be considered on his or her own merits; however, the following circumstances could cause the applicant to be eliminated during the selection process:**

- **Extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;**
- **Residence in a family where the language of the academy is spoken in the home; and/or**
- **Attendance at a school of a country where the target language is spoken.**

**It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies.**

1. Hard copies of this application are no longer available from the Department of Education. The following two versions of the application are available on the Internet at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>:
  - A form-protected Word file that can be downloaded and completed using Microsoft Word
  - A .pdf file that can be printed and completed by hand
2. **Please note that applications obtained from the Internet do not include the necessary materials for preparing (1) the cassette tape and (2) the composition.** Parents and students may **not** request the tape and composition topics. The foreign language department chairperson for each school may obtain an order form for these items on the Internet at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/order.doc> and should **order testing materials by December 16, 2005.**
3. Please do not use staples to assemble the application packet.
4. Submit only the original application, one original transcript, the original and one copy of the composition, and the original cassette tape.
5. To assist with more efficient data entry, please transfer certain information from various parts of the application to the COVER SHEET (Page 2).
6. Funding for the Governor's Foreign Language Academies will be shared between the local school division or the private school and the Virginia Department of Education. In order for your superintendent or headmaster to plan appropriately, it is necessary that the names of academy applicants be reported to the local gifted administrator or designee who handles funding for this program as soon as they are determined and no later than January 6, 2006.
7. The availability of the 2006 Governor's Foreign Language Academies – in part or *in toto* – is dependent on available funding.

**Application Deadline: January 12, 2006**

# **2006 GOVERNOR'S FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMMERSION ACADEMIES (French, German, Spanish)**

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **1. What is the purpose of the immersion academies?**

The immersion academies are designed to provide an opportunity for students who have excelled in their first three or more years of language study to use that language for all communication purposes for three weeks. Each academy will be a demanding experience that will honor the students for their previous achievements and offer a unique experience for developing further skills in that language.

### **2. When and where will the academies take place?**

The French, German, and Spanish Academies will all take place at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, from June 24 through July 16, 2006.

### **3. What will be offered at the academies?**

A distinguishing feature of the academies is that everyone wants to be there and wants to learn. Excellent students and excellent faculty create a highly stimulating environment.

There will be formal classes, most of which are during the mornings. In these classes, the language is used to study various topics. The topics vary depending upon the faculty, but a sample from previous academies includes History of France, The Media in Germany, Excerpts from Literature, Latin American Music, Life in France Today, etc. Native speakers are often a part of the faculty.

If possible, students are introduced to an additional language not commonly taught in the schools. That language is chosen according to availability of proper instructors who must be able to speak the language of the academy and use it to teach a third language. In the past we have offered Korean, Russian, or Arabic in French; Russian or Turkish in German; and Greek, Italian, Russian, or German in Spanish. This is one of the most enlightening, valuable, and enjoyable features of the academy.

Sports, music, dance, theater, creative projects, cooking, field trips, a memory book, and other activities complement the instructional program.

You may think that speaking French, Spanish, or German for three weeks is formidable; however, over 3,300 students have successfully completed the immersion programs. Students and faculty work closely together, and the closing ceremony is always a bittersweet occasion. Most describe the language academies as a mind-broadening experience, and the participants leave as changed young people.

### **4. How do the academies differ from regular language classes?**

The uninterrupted period of time to use the target language is a principal distinguishing factor. It is a notably longer and more intensive environment than that found in most school foreign language programs. Fellow students are all excellent achievers in the language, and the staff of teachers and tutors has been especially selected to present the language in a variety of challenging instructional and activity formats.

### **5. Will grades or credit be given?**

Neither grades nor credit will be given; however, students will receive a certificate at the close of the academy. College applications often provide students with an opportunity to report their participation in such an experience as this.

## 6. Who is eligible to attend the academies?

### Applicants

- must have completed at least three years of the language;
- must have developed good proficiency in using this language;
- must be at least juniors but may be mature sophomores during the current school year, 2005-2006, and must not have graduated before the opening of the academy;
- must be eligible to attend public school in Virginia tuition-free;
- must be nominated by an accredited public high school from a Virginia public school division or by a private school that is accredited by the Virginia Council for Private Education or the appropriate accrediting agency;
- may apply to only one Governor's summer residential program per year; and
- may attend only one Governor's summer residential program during their high school career.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This academy is not designed for students who come to it with native or near-native fluency in the target language. Students with highly developed oral language skills do not find the rigors of the academy as challenging or rewarding as students of lesser proficiency who, for the most part, have learned the language in a classroom setting. Furthermore, it is difficult for staff to accommodate students whose language skills are already sufficiently developed. **Each applicant will be considered on his or her own merits; however, the following circumstances could cause the applicant to be eliminated in the selection process:**

- Extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;
- Residence in a family where the language of the academy is spoken in the home; or
- Attendance at a school of a country where the target language is spoken.

**It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies.**

## 7. How many students will attend the academies?

Sixty students will be selected for the Spanish and French Academies, and forty-five students will be selected for the German Academy.

## 8. Who may participate in the academies?

Any public or private school student meeting the criteria on page vi may apply. Home-schooled students may apply through the public school they are eligible to attend tuition-free. A state selection process will determine who is accepted to participate.

## 9. What qualities should characterize the students?

- A love of the language and interest in developing it further
- A commitment to speak the language at all times
- A dedication to learning that goes beyond the influence of tests and grades
- Interest in other peoples and cultures
- Ability to study, play, and live harmoniously within a group in a tightly-knit environment
- Ability to exercise good judgement and self-discipline, follow directions, and follow rules while away from parents and school

#### **10. How will participants be selected?**

Students who wish to participate in the academy must be nominated. They must wish to participate and be truly motivated to speak the language of the Academy. They must have a recommendation from at least one foreign language teacher, from another teacher or counselor, and from the principal or headmaster of the school. The nominating school must submit a complete application packet, including the student's speaking sample and written composition to be completed under controlled testing conditions. After the applications are received by the Department of Education, they will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the State. Selection is competitive and based solely on committee review and evaluation of the applicant's qualifications. Every effort is made to ensure appropriate minority and geographic representation in the selection process. **All applicants will be notified by mail of their status by mid-April.**

The nominating school must submit a complete application package to the Department of Education. After the nominations are received, they will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the state Department of Education.

#### **11. Who may request applications and make nominations?**

Nominations must be made by a foreign language teacher, a guidance counselor, a principal, an assistant principal, or a supervisor. Students and parents may not make nominations. **All nominations must be submitted by the school according to the instructions in this packet.**

#### **12. What is the cost to participants?**

The total tuition for the 2006 academies is \$1600. For public school students, the cost of tuition, room and board, field trips, and other activities planned for the academies will be paid with state and local funds. Private schools are responsible for the local share of the tuition costs for their students, which is fifty percent of the total tuition cost, or \$800. The student must provide his/her own spending money and transportation to and from the academy.

An activity fee of \$30 will be charged to cover the cost of a Global Village T-shirt, to be worn during joint events; a memory book; and other items produced by and for the students during the course of the academy. These items become cherished keepsakes for academy participants. Each student will also be given the opportunity to purchase a French, German or Spanish Academy T-shirt with the 2006 theme for approximately \$15.

#### **13. Where will the participants be housed?**

Participants will live on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. Male and female participants will be housed on separate floors or wings of a residence hall.

#### **14. Will recreational opportunities be available to participants?**

Yes. Supervised recreational activities in which all students will be expected to participate will be available.

#### **15. What other services will be provided to the participants?**

Medical services will be available, and security is provided to participants.

**16. Will participants be allowed leave-of-absence from the academies?**

A basic principle of the academy atmosphere is the intensity and uninterrupted nature of the experience. **Students and parents must understand before applying that the students are making a commitment to remain in the academy for the entire length of the program and are expected to be present from the opening ceremony until the final event scheduled on the last day. If parents or students anticipate conflicts of any kind, the students should not apply.** They may not compromise the experience except in the case of a medical or family emergency. Medical and family emergencies include major illness, hospitalization, or death of an immediate family member or guardian.

**17. What are some of the responsibilities that participants assume?**

All participants must share in all academic and social activities planned for them and must adhere to the rules and regulations as prescribed, including the rule to speak the target language at all times. **Any infraction of these rules will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the academy, and may result in disciplinary action by the sponsoring school division or private institution.** If a student is dismissed from the academy it shall be the responsibility of the parent to arrange for student transportation home or to assume the costs for transportation arranged by the academy director.

**18. Are participants allowed to bring vehicles and cell phones, pagers, iPods, or personal computers to the academies?**

No. Students may not have cell phones, pagers, iPods, or personal computers while participating in the immersion academies. The primary reason for this is to preserve the total immersion environment. Additionally, the intensive nature of the Academy requires fostering an environment with limited distractions. Over the past 20 years, we have found that students appreciate the ability to concentrate on new relationships within the community and leave behind, if only for a brief time, the demands and interruptions that everyday life imposes. To that end, we expect that students and parents will respect our community formation process and immersion environment by leaving cell phones and other personal communication devices at home. If a parent or guardian has a grave concern regarding this policy, please contact Helen Small ([Helen.Small@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Helen.Small@doe.virginia.gov)) at 804-225-3666. Parents will be provided with several telephone numbers that can be used to contact Academy personnel, and security is provided within the dormitory and on campus.

Automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles, skateboards, scooters, and other kinds of vehicles are prohibited. Participants are not allowed to ride in vehicles except when accompanied by a parent or guardian.

**19. May participants invite guests to visit them at the academies?**

Visits by friends and family members interrupt the total immersion commitment and are therefore not allowed.

**20. May participants bring to and use within the academies English-language music or printed material?**

No. One of the purposes of the Academy is to achieve a cohesive, self-contained environment in which students can study and come to know one another with a minimum of external distractions. This would also be an interruption of the total immersion nature of the academy. An exception is made for printed religious material only.

# 2006 GOVERNOR’S FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMMERSION ACADEMIES

## CRITERIA AND INFORMATION FOR NOMINATING STUDENTS

### 1. Eligibility of High Schools

- High schools submitting nominations may not discriminate upon the basis of religious conviction, race, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin.
- Schools eligible to nominate students to the academies include accredited public high schools from a Virginia public school division and private schools that are accredited by the Virginia Council for Private Education or the appropriate accrediting agency.

### 2. Applicants

- must have completed a minimum of three years of the language with outstanding success and possess excellent listening and speaking skills in that language;
- must be qualified and genuinely interested in attending an academy;
- should be at least juniors (eleventh grade) but may be mature sophomores (tenth grade) during the current school year, 2005-2006, and must not have graduated by the opening of the academy;
- must be eligible to attend public school in Virginia tuition-free;
- may not apply to more than one of the Governor’s summer residential programs per year;
- may attend only one Governor’s summer residential program during their high school career; and
- must be nominated by an eligible school.

If more students than the school is allowed to nominate wish to participate in the academies, the school must appoint and use a selection committee to select the applicant(s).

This academy is **not** designed for students

- with native or near-native fluency in the target language;
- with extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;
- who reside in a home where the language of the academy is spoken; or
- who have attended a school of a country where the target language is spoken.

Any of these reasons could cause the applicant to be eliminated in the selection process. It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies, i.e., Japanese or Russian.

### 3. Number of Applicants per School

The number of applicants per full-immersion academy allowed per school is based on the Average Daily Membership (ADM) in grades 10, 11, and 12 of that school, as of September 30, 2005.

<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Number of Applicants</u>
1 – 750	1
More than 750	2

### 4. Submission of Nominations

- Only a foreign language teacher, a guidance counselor, an assistant principal, a principal or a supervisor may request testing materials and submit nominations. That person must see that all aspects of the application are completed properly, assembled, duplicated, and submitted as an integrated packet.
- All nominations must be made on the forms provided by the Department of Education.

## 5. Preparation of the tape and composition

The tape and composition topics **must be requested separately by the foreign language department chairperson or testing coordinator at each school.** The topics may not be requested by students or parents. The order form is available on the Internet at

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/order.doc>.

The tape and composition should be prepared during a single block of time by the student under the supervision of a school staff member who is not a foreign language teacher, e.g., a math teacher, a counselor, a media specialist, an assistant principal, etc. No foreign language teacher may be present when the tape is being made or the composition written. The student should make an appointment in advance with the person to perform these two functions. For the tape we suggest a recognized brand; inexpensive tapes frequently malfunction. At the time of the taping and the writing of the composition, the student will be given sealed instructions containing topics and other information. In making the tape the student will have three minutes to reflect and another three minutes to record his/her response. The student will have up to one hour to complete the composition. The proctor will sign a statement that the student received no assistance from anyone. More specific instructions for the tape and composition proctor are provided in the packet that is ordered by the department chairperson in each school. Be sure that the **cassette tape** (not the case) is properly labeled, i.e., provide the name of applicant and academy to which the student is applying. **These testing materials must be requested by December 16, 2005.**

## 6. Deadline for Submitting Applications

All completed application forms and supporting materials must be postmarked by **JANUARY 12, 2006**, in order to be considered. No exceptions will be made. Return the application to:

### U.S. MAIL

Helen Small  
Middle/High School Instruction – 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Virginia Department of Education  
P.O. Box 2120  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

### FEDEX/UPS

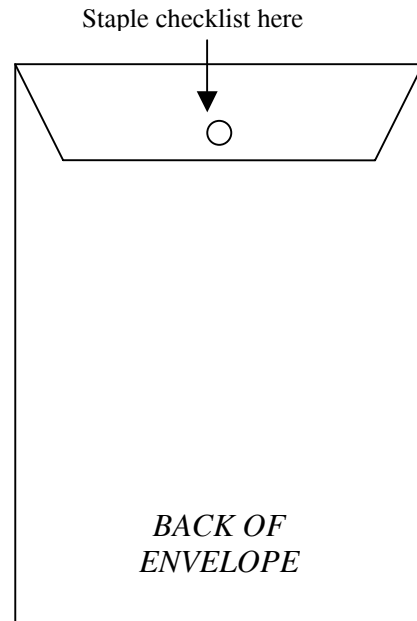
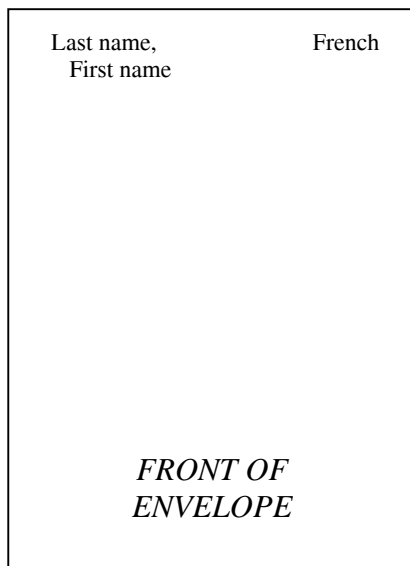
Helen Small  
Middle/High School Instruction – 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Virginia Department of Education  
101 North Fourteenth Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

## 7. Other Advice

- Please order the tape and composition testing materials by December 16, 2005. Nominating teachers should inform the foreign language department chairperson or foreign language contact person which testing materials they will need as soon as possible.
- Applicants should be given adequate time to complete their portion of the packet and prepare the cassette tape recording and composition.
- In the interest of fairness to all applicants, members of an applicant's family should not serve on the local selection committee.
- Applicants should be advised that nomination does not ensure acceptance. A selection committee at the state level will choose the students for each foreign language immersion academy from among the applicants.
- Students should be advised that their speaking and writing samples carry the most weight in the selection process. Every effort should be made to deliver an audible/legible product of good content, organization, and structure.

## Instructions for assembly of applications

- Place each application packet into a separate, sealed, 9 ½ x 12 inch manila envelope.
  - Include all items on the checklist such as grammar test and essay, reply card, etc.
  - Do not use staples to keep any pages of the application together.
  - Keep the checklist (see previous page) separate and attach it as indicated below.
- Neatly label the **FRONT** of the envelope with a black marker as indicated below (see diagram):
  - Student's name (Last name, first name) in the **UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER**
  - Language academy to which the student is applying (French, German, Japanese, Latin, Russian, or Spanish) in the **UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER**
- Staple the checklist (see next page) to the **BACK** of the sealed envelope as indicated below (see diagram).



- Place the labeled manila envelope(s) containing the assembled application(s) into a mailing envelope or box.
  - Please stack applications neatly and do not fold applications.
  - Place nominee report form on top of applications.
  - Address and seal the envelope or box.
- Mail according to the directions on page vi of the application packet.

If you have any questions regarding the assembly and mailing of applications, please contact Helen Small ([helen.small@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:helen.small@doe.virginia.gov)) at (804) 225-3666.



Public School Division or Private School: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name (Last, First) \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECKLIST

### 2006 Governor's Foreign Language Immersion Academies

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish

**NOTE: The individual responsible for assembling and submitting all materials must enclose the cover sheet and this checklist for each student nominated. Incomplete nomination packets will not be considered.** Please use this checklist *while assembling application packet* to ensure that a complete application is submitted. Staple checklist to the outside back of the manila envelope holding the individual student's application materials.

Enclosed in this packet are:

- ☐ A stamped and self-addressed acknowledgement postcard (optional)
- ☐ This checklist
- ☐ Cover sheet – [page 2](#) (attention to the following categories)
  - ☐ Entered total number of points in designated areas for teacher recommendations
  - ☐ Entered 7-digit school ID number (public schools only)
- ☐ The original application (please do not use staples to assemble) that includes:
  - ☐ Student section – [pages 3-5](#) + up to 4 pages of response from the student
  - ☐ Parent's or Guardian's Form – [pages 6-7](#)
  - ☐ Current or Most Recent Language Teacher's Form – [pages 8-9](#) + pages of response from language teacher
  - ☐ Second Teacher's/Counselor's/Sponsor's, etc., Form – [pages 10-11](#) + pages of response from second recommendation
  - ☐ Principal's or Headmaster's Form – [page 12](#)
  - ☐ All of the above forms have requested signatures on pages 4, 7, 9, 11, and 12.
- ☐ Student's transcript
- ☐ Cassette Audio Tape:
  - ☐ Regular cassette tape (neither a mini-cassette nor a CD will be accepted)
  - ☐ Label with student name and academy (on the tape)
  - ☐ **Suitably packaged for U.S. Mail or FEDEX/UPS delivery**
- ☐ Sealed and signed envelope (A) containing signed student and proctor tape instruction sheets
- ☐ Sealed and signed envelope (B) containing:
  - ☐ Original composition
  - ☐ One copy of the composition
  - ☐ Signed student and proctor composition instruction sheets
- ☐ Applicant's name has been reported to the local gifted education administrator and foreign language supervisor or contact person. Please list name(s) and phone number(s) for the following contact people:

Please complete	Gifted education administrator or contact person for school division: Phone number:	
	Foreign language supervisor or contact person for school division: Phone number:	
	Nominating teacher: Phone number:	E-mail:
	Person responsible for packaging/mailing:	Phone number:

**2006 Governor's Foreign Language Immersion Academies**  
**Application Deadline: Postmarked on or before January 12, 2006**

**COVER SHEET****Page 1****2006 Governor's Foreign Language Immersion Academies**Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish**Please complete the following (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY):**Student's Name:  
(Last, first, middle)Home Address  
(p. 3, #6):

E-mail (p. 3, #7):

Grade Level:  
(p. 3, #8):Male/Female:  
(p. 3, #9)Parent's Name:  
(p. 6, #1 or #2)Present Level of Language Study:  
(p. 3, #12)Home Phone:  
(p. 6, #1 or #2)Work Phone:  
(p. 6, #1 or #2)School Division:  
(p. 6, #3)Student's Race:  
(p. 7, #6) **Do not complete if parent left blank.****Please total the number of points in the rating boxes on the teacher recommendations:****1<sup>st</sup> Teacher's Rating Score (p. 8):**  
**(40 maximum)****2<sup>nd</sup> Teacher's Rating Score (p. 10):**  
**(32 maximum)**Person responsible  
for nomination:

School:

School Address:

School Phone:

School Fax:

Seven-digit School ID Number (**Public schools only**):School ID numbers can be found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/go/VDOE/dbpubs/doedir/ea.html>.  
(Find the appropriate school division, then choose "schools.")

**STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM****Page 1**

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish

- Notes:**
1. Please review the entire packet before completing this application.
  2. Completion of all items is vital to the selection process.
  3. Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 2006.
  4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>.
  5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the nomination materials. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.
1. Your name:  
(Last, first, middle)
  2. Name by which you prefer to be called:
  3. Name of public school division, if applicable:
  4. Name of public or private school:
  5. School telephone number, including area code:
  6. Home Mailing Address:
  7. Home Telephone Number (including area code): E-mail:
  8. Present Grade Level: ☐ 10 ☐ 11
  9. Check one: ☐ Male ☐ Female
  10. Birth date:
  11. Have you previously attended a Governor's Summer Residential Program?  
☐ Yes ☐ No *If the answer is "yes," you are not eligible to attend an academy and should not continue with the application.*  
 Are you applying to another Governor's Summer Residential Program for the summer of 2006?  
☐ Yes ☐ No *If the answer is "yes," you are not eligible to apply to multiple Governor's Summer Residential Programs and/or Academies for the same year and should not continue with the application.*
  12. What is your present level of language study? ☐ III ☐ IV ☐ V ☐ AP ☐ Other-Explain: \_\_\_\_\_
  13. Consider very carefully the following questions:
    - a. Can you survive in a highly structured, yet stimulating and challenging environment with rules and regulations governing your behavior? ☐ Yes ☐ No
    - b. Can you survive for three weeks knowing that you will have no telephone or personal contact with family or friends? ☐ Yes ☐ No
    - c. Are you willing to take risks with your language skills in learning another language? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM****Page 2**

14. Prepare (1) a three-minute cassette audio tape in the foreign language and (2) a composition in the foreign language under the supervision of a faculty or staff member **other than a foreign language teacher**. Please make an appointment with this person in advance. Instructions will be given to you in a sealed envelope for each of these activities. You will have one hour to write and revise a composition on any **two of three** possible topics (no more than one page, handwritten per topic.) Take several pens, #2 sharpened pencils and sheets of lined notebook paper, but **no** textbooks, dictionaries, reference materials, etc. In preparing the tape, use a regular cassette tape of recognized quality. (Some second-quality tapes can cause problems. Neither mini-cassettes nor CDs will be accepted.)
15. Please submit two reference forms – one form from your current foreign language teacher and a second from another teacher or counselor who is not a foreign language teacher but who knows you and your work. The forms are a part of this packet.
16. Read and sign the statement below:

**If selected, I will speak only the target language throughout the academy. I will abide by all regulations and rules of the academy, and I will be present at all times from the opening ceremony until the final event scheduled on the last day of the academy. I am aware that this is an academic program, NOT a camp, and am willing to work to improve my language skills in challenging and fun activities.**

**I understand that I may be dismissed for misconduct. Misconduct leading to dismissal will be reported to my school and may result in additional disciplinary action by my school division.**

**I certify that the information on this form is accurate and that I have received no assistance in the preparation of the composition and tape. I further certify that I have read and understand all the information contained in pages i-viii of this application packet.**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT'S APPLICATION FORM****Page 3**

Please answer the remaining questions (17-31) on your own paper and attach them to this application form. Include your name on the upper right corner of each page. Your responses to all questions *may not exceed a total of four single-spaced typed pages*. Please re-state the question in bold type above each response.

17. **Have you previously traveled or lived abroad? Yes? No? If yes, please provide the following information for each trip/experience: dates of travel; where you traveled; your age at the time; type of travel, i.e., tour, family stay, etc.; how often you spoke the language, i.e., rarely, occasionally, often, always.**
18. **Are any of your family members native speakers of the language of the academy? Yes? No? If yes, who? Describe the extent to which you use the foreign language with them.**
19. **Do you speak any other languages besides the one you are studying and English? Yes? No? If yes, please elaborate.**
20. **List hobbies, sports, leisure-time activities and work experience in which you have participated. Be sure to include current or recent work experience.**
21. **List any honors you have received that you feel are relevant to the academy.**

The following questions (22-31) will not impact selection consideration, but will be helpful to the director in planning and organizing the program.

22. **Do you work well with others? Please give specific examples. Explain how you adapt to challenges.**
23. **What topics or kinds of activities would you like to see as a part of the academy program? If you were planning it, what kinds of things would you include?**
24. **Do you play a musical instrument, sing, dance, play a sport, or have any other particular talent that might be an asset to the academy activities? Yes? No? If yes, please elaborate.**
25. **The academies require your presence for the entire length of the program, from opening day to closing day. Do you anticipate any other summer activities that might interfere with your uninterrupted attendance for the entire duration of the academy? Yes? No? If the answer is yes, please explain.**
26. **Do you have any special dietary requirements? Yes? No? If the answer is yes, please describe.**
27. **Are you flexible enough to live in an environment where food choices are very limited? Yes? No?**
28. **Have you ever spent an extended period of time (a week or more) away from your family? Yes? No? If the answer is yes, please describe the circumstances.**
29. **If you were to experience homesickness, how would you deal with it?**
30. **Describe your ideal roommate.**
31. **List ten adjectives that you think describe you.**

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish

## PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S FORM

### Page 1

(To be completed by the parent or guardian)

- Notes:**
1. Please review the complete packet before proceeding.
  2. Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 20 06.
  3. If it is not appropriate to give information for both father and mother, please make appropriate substitutions.
  4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>.
  5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the student's nomination packet. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This academy is not designed for students who come to it with native or near-native fluency in the target language. Students with highly developed oral language skills do not find the rigors of the academy as challenging or rewarding as students of lesser proficiency who, for the most part, have learned the language in a classroom setting. Furthermore, it is difficult for staff to accommodate students whose language skills are already sufficiently developed. **Each applicant will be considered on his or her own merits; however, the following circumstances could cause the applicant to be eliminated in the selection process:**

- Extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;
- Residence in a family where the language of the academy is spoken in the home; or
- Attendance at a school of a country where the target language is spoken.

**It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies.**

1. Father's Name:

Home Mailing Address:

Telephone Numbers (including area code): Home –  
Work –

2. Mother's Name:

Home Mailing Address:

Telephone Numbers (including area code): Home -  
Work –

3. City/County in which applicant resides:

4. Please identify a secondary emergency contact, in case it should be necessary to contact you in an emergency and neither of the persons identified above is available.

Name: Relationship to Applicant:  
Address:

Telephone Numbers (including area code): Home – Work –

**PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S FORM****Page 2**

5. (The following is an optional question and may be omitted.) Please check one or more of the following categories to best describe your child's racial or ethnic background:

☐ American Indian/Alaskan native    ☐ Black/non-Hispanic    ☐ Hispanic  
☐ Asian/Pacific Islander    ☐ White/non-Hispanic

6. Please read and sign the statement below:

I, the parent (guardian) of \_\_\_\_\_, permit him/her to be nominated to participate in the 2006 Governor's Foreign Language Immersion Academies. If selected, I understand that he or she must be present at all times from the opening ceremony until the final event scheduled on the last day of the academy. I understand that for public school students, all expenses of room, board, and tuition will be paid by local and state funds. If my child is a private school student, I have confirmed how payment will be made for the local share of the tuition. I also understand that transportation to and from the academy, an activity fee of \$30, and money for personal expenses must be provided by the participants.

I understand that if selected for the academy, my son or daughter will live in a dormitory and will abide by the rules and regulations set forth for the academy, including no leave of absence except in cases of medical and/or family emergency, as described on page v. I understand that failure to participate in the academic and activity programs or infraction of the rules and regulations, including deliberate use of English or another non-Academy language, will be just cause for immediate dismissal, and that I shall be responsible for arranging transportation or for assuming the costs of transportation arranged by the Academy director. I also understand that misconduct leading to dismissal will be reported to my child's school and may result in additional disciplinary action by the school division.

I am aware that this is an academic program, NOT a camp and that students must be willing to work to improve their language skills in challenging and fun activities. I understand that security and health services are available for participants. I agree to let my child participate in field trips with the group. I furthermore grant permission for a transcript of my son's or daughter's secondary school record to be sent as part of the application packet.

I have evaluated my child's abilities and have determined that he/she has the maturity to participate in the rigorous requirements of the Academy and exercise appropriate judgement when away from home, and can survive a highly structured and challenging environment with rules and regulations governing his/her behavior.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish**CURRENT OR MOST RECENT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER'S FORM****Page 1**

- Notes:**
1. Please review the complete packet before proceeding.
  2. Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 2006.
  3. Complete all items.
  4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>.
  5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the student's nomination packet. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's Name:

Your Name:

Title:

School Name:

1. Which language course(s) has the student taken with you?
2. Please estimate the extent to which the student demonstrates the qualities listed below by placing an X in the appropriate boxes. Be sure to rate each quality as accurately as possible. Accurate estimates better enable the faculty to tailor the program to the students' needs.

Attribute	Superior (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Poor (1 point)
Interest in learning the language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language learning aptitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative, self-direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intellectual curiosity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attitude toward learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determination to succeed when faced with challenges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with teachers/adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Points				<input type="text"/>

3. Academy students must be adaptable "team players." They may be shy or introverted, but they must not insulate themselves from others all of the time. Are you convinced that this student is sufficiently malleable to enjoy an extended period of group living? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. How would you rank this student among the foreign language students that you have taught? In the top:  
☐ 2% ☐ 5% ☐ 10% ☐ 15% ☐ 20% ☐ below top 20%
5. How many years have you taught this foreign language?



**CURRENT OR MOST RECENT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER'S FORM****Page 2**

6. Students are selected for the Governor's Foreign Language Academies based on a variety of criteria. The degree of success that they experience is directly related to their motivation to excel.

**On a separate sheet of paper, please comment on this student's ability to meet the requirements listed below and cite some examples to support your comments. Include *the student's name* on the upper right corner of each page.**

- Ability to adapt to challenges
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude
- Ability to adapt to living away from home, family and friends
- Ability to adhere to regulations and expectations of the program
- Motivation to succeed and their desire to learn
- Ability to get along well with other young people and adults in a pleasant but intensive environment

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This academy is not designed for students who come to it with native or near-native fluency in the target language. Students with highly developed oral language skills do not find the rigors of the academy as challenging or rewarding as students of lesser proficiency who, for the most part, have learned the language in a classroom setting. Furthermore, it is difficult for staff to accommodate students whose language skills are already sufficiently developed. **Each applicant will be considered on his or her own merits; however, the following circumstances could cause the applicant to be eliminated in the selection process:**

- Extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;
- Residence in a family where the language of the academy is spoken in the home; or
- Attendance at a school of a country where the target language is spoken.

**It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies.**

**I certify that I have given this student no assistance in the preparation or correction of the tape or composition.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish

## SECOND TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATION FORM

Page 1

(or coach, sponsor, scout leader, etc., but not another foreign language teacher)

- Notes:**
1. Please review the complete packet before proceeding.
  2. Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 2006.
  3. Complete all items.
  4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>.
  5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the student's nomination packet. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's Name:

Your Name:

Title:

School Name:

1. Please estimate the extent to which the student demonstrates the qualities listed below. Be sure to rate each quality as accurately as possible. Accurate estimates better enable the faculty to tailor the program to the students' needs.

Attribute	Superior (4 points)	Good (3 points)	Fair (2 points)	Poor (1 points)
Initiative, self-direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intellectual curiosity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attitude toward learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Determination to succeed when faced with challenges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to get along with teachers/adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total Points				

2. Academy students must be adaptable "team players." They may be shy or introverted, but they must not be ones to live in a shell all of the time, insulating themselves from others. Are you convinced that this student is sufficiently malleable to enjoy an extended period of group living?

☐ Yes

☐ No

**SECOND TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATION FORM****Page 2**

**Please answer the remaining questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this recommendation form. Include *the student's name* on the upper right corner of each page.**

3. In what way(s) have you worked with this student?
4. Students are selected for the Governor's Foreign Language Academies based on a variety of criteria. The degree of success that they experience is directly related to their motivation to excel.

**Please comment on this student's ability to meet the requirements listed below and cite some examples to support your comments.**

- Ability to adapt to challenges
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude
- Ability to adapt to living away from home, family and friends
- Ability to adhere to regulations and expectations of the program
- Motivation to succeed and desire to learn
- Ability to get along well with other young people and adults in a pleasant but intensive environment

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This academy is not designed for students who come to it with native or near-native fluency in the target language. Students with highly developed oral language skills do not find the rigors of the academy as challenging or rewarding as students of lesser proficiency who, for the most part, have learned the language in a classroom setting. Furthermore, it is difficult for staff to accommodate students whose language skills are already sufficiently developed. **Each applicant will be considered on his or her own merits; however, the following circumstances could cause the applicant to be eliminated in the selection process:**

- Extensive immersion experience or extensive travel or residence in a country where the language of the academy is spoken;
- Residence in a family where the language of the academy is spoken in the home; or
- Attendance at a school of a country where the target language is spoken.

**It is suggested that such students consider applying to one of the other foreign language/area studies academies.**

**I certify that I have given this student no assistance in the preparation or correction of the tape or composition.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name (Last, First)

Which language? ☐ French ☐ German ☐ Spanish**PRINCIPAL'S OR HEADMASTER'S FORM**

- Notes: 1. Please review the complete packet before proceeding.  
 2. Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 2006.  
 3. Complete all items.  
 4. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY. This application can be completed using a form-protected Word file found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Language/GAdates.html#Applications>.  
 5. Return this form to the person in the school responsible for the assembly and submission of the student's nomination packet. Please allow the school ample time to assemble and mail the packets by the deadline.

Student's Name:

Principal's or Headmaster's Name:

School Name:

1. Your seven-digit School ID Number (Public Schools Only):

(Example: Arcadia High School in Accomack County: 001-0540).

School ID numbers can be found at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/go/VDOE/dbpubs/doedir/ea.html>.

(Find the appropriate school division, then choose "schools.")

2. Applicant's actual or estimated rank in class:

☐ top 2%    ☐ top 4%    ☐ top 6%    ☐ top 10%    ☐ below top 10%

3. What was your school's enrollment in grades 10 – 12 on September 30, 2005?

☐ 1-750    ☐ more than 750

4. **IMPORTANT!** Attach a legible transcript of the applicant's high school record. Include as well the student's present foreign language grade if not listed on transcript.
5. List the names and positions of local school selection committee members, if there was one.
6. Do you have any comments about this student's strengths and weaknesses that you think would be helpful to the selection committee in evaluating his/her application?

**Certification Statement**

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is qualified and is genuinely interested in attending the Governor's Foreign Language Immersion Academy. I thereby recommend this applicant for consideration as a participant in the academy.

Date

Signature of Principal/Headmaster or Designee

Printed Name and Title